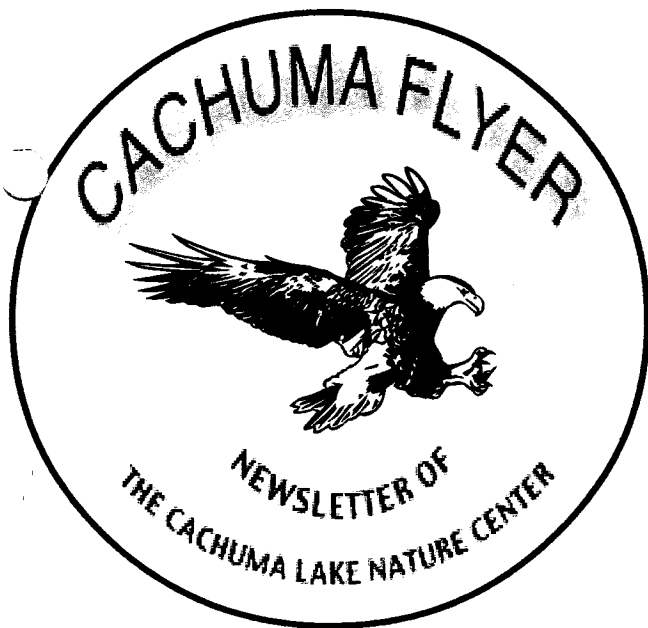




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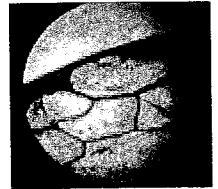
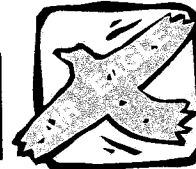
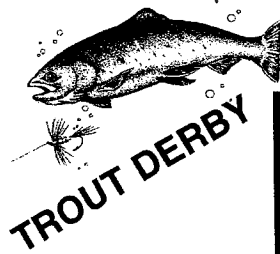
FEATURED THIS ISSUE:

MORE!



**NEW GOOD
STUFF IN
STOCK**

**FREE FOOD
ALL YOU CAN EAT
AT BIRD AIRPORT**



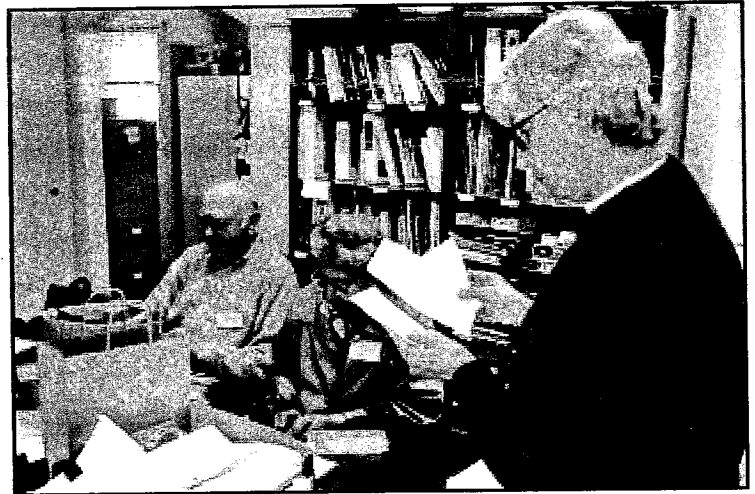
WARNING!
PLANET ZOT LANDS
SPACECRAFT ON THE
EARTH TO CAPTURE
NATURALIST SLAVES

IT'S DERBY TIME AGAIN!

- BY LINDA TAYLOR

Although efforts have been underway since May of 2002, to plan and operate the 2003 Trout Derby, work on the Derby is becoming more intense as each week goes by since the first of the year.

Under the direction of Patricia Martin, registration is well underway; approximately 2,800 entry forms were mailed all over Southern California and beyond. Tom Lemp from Cachuma Lake Store is taking 5,000 forms to the Long Beach Fishing Tackle Show where he will distribute them to thousands of visitors to that event from the Cachuma Lake booth. Neal Taylor will use his contacts in the fishing industry to distribute several hundred forms through Western Hoegee, a Los Angeles fishing tackle wholesale company. Forms and posters have been distributed to businesses in Santa Barbara County.



Carol Smagala is the chairperson of prize solicitations which appears at this writing to be slow compared with a year ago. In 2002, Barbara Gutmann and Cleve Whitfield were the champs in garnering the highest number of prizes. All individuals associated with the Nature Center are encouraged to contact friends and businesses which they patronize for prizes-- gift certificates, merchandise, or cash. As of February 28, \$1,700 had been donated toward prizes and underwriting the cost of the Derby; \$2,500 in registration fees had been deposited. For perspective, \$5,500 is guaranteed to be given away in prizes.

Publicity is beginning with the first news article and paid advertising to appear in the Western Outdoor News edition distributed at the Long Beach Fishing Tackle Show. News articles, paid advertising, and calendar listings will be distributed to ten different newspapers in the Tri-Counties area and Los Angeles. Public Service Announcements and some paid advertising will also be sent to local radio and television stations. - **CONTINUED OVERLEAF**

TROUT DERBY, CONTINUED

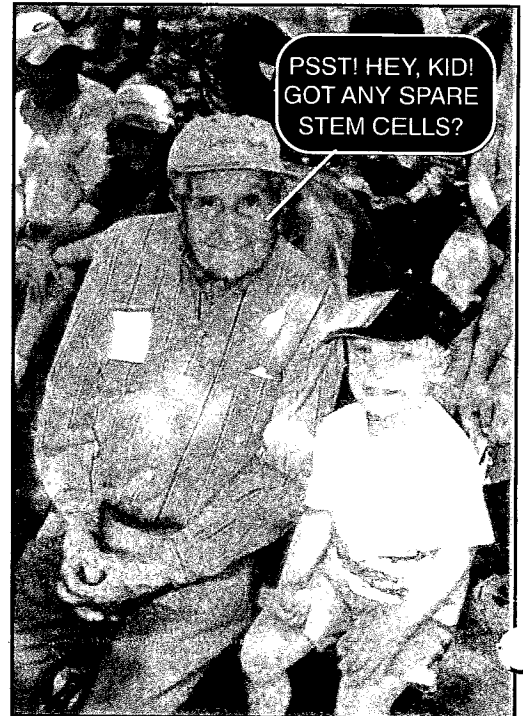
In 2002, between 30 and 35 people helped to operate the derby, including Docents, Directors, spouses, and friends. Derby volunteers this year will set up camp in the Apache Pines group area which has electrical and water hook-ups, a fire pit, and a covered eating area. All workers are given free camping for this event. People interested in doing so must inform Helen Osenga who is scheduling workers. A large crowd of workers are expected to attend the pot-luck dinner Saturday evening, either in the recreation hall or in the covered picnic area, if the weather is exceedingly good. This was a particularly enjoyable event last year.

Effort is being spent or will be spent to organize children's activities during the weekend of the Derby, arrange for printing, provide recognition to donors, operate the hot-line information system, organize the weigh-in station, plan the prize award program, and assemble badges.

This is the major fund raiser for the Center, providing operating funds for all aspects of the program. Net profit last year was \$27,045.86. (A reminder here: all income from grants are earmarked for very specific needs and not transferable to other uses.)

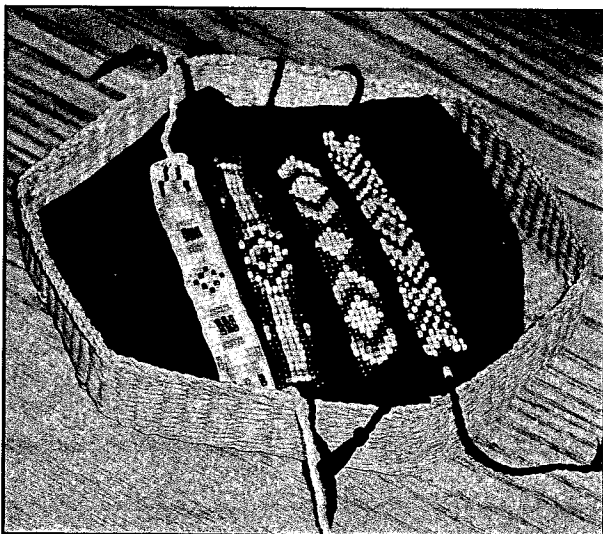
Time and labor are needed of all who participate in the Nature Center to make this event a success. To offer time during the Derby weekend, beginning at noon on Friday, April 4, when on-site registration begins, call Helen Osenga at 964-0419 (e-mail hco@west.net); for information regarding prize donations and acknowledgements or if you would take posters and distribute them in your neighborhood, call Linda Taylor at 693-0691 (e-mail clnatctr@sbceo.org).

Remember the old saying, "Many hands make light work."



THE OLDEST PARTICIPANT IN LAST YEAR'S DERBY WAS DUTCH WILSON, AGE 92. THE YOUNGEST ENTRANT TO CATCH A PRIZE-WINNING FISH WAS BRYCE HUTCHISON, AGE 4

ANOTHER NEW ITEM IN OUR GIFT STORE



BEAUTIFUL BEADED BRACELETS, VERY AFFORDABLE, B+W PRINTING DOESN'T DO THESE JUSTICE. COME SEE THEM!



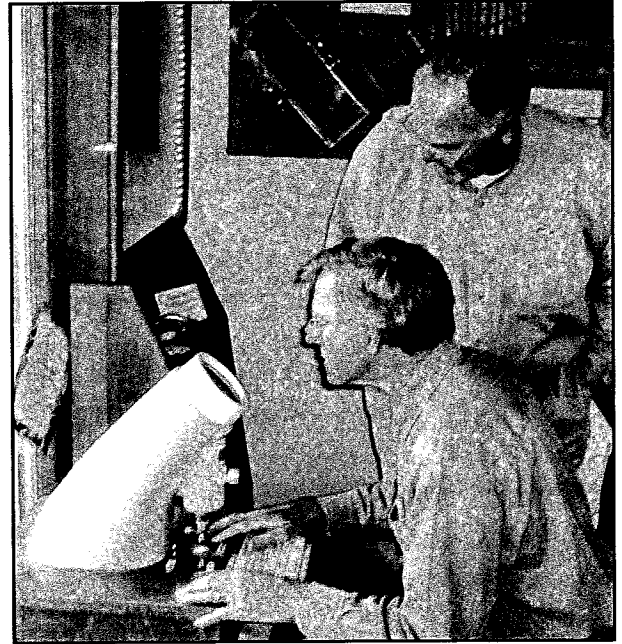
DON'T WANT TO DIS" MASTER HUTCHISON, BUT DOESN'T THIS REMIND YOU OF THE MAIL SOLICITATIONS FROM BOYS TOWN? "HE AIN'T HEAVY, FATHER, HE'S MY FISH"

THE WENTZSCOPE

BY DARYL RUTHERFORD

The Wentzscope is an adaptation of a conventional microscope such that the image can be viewed on a large screen. The first model of this microscope developed by Budd Wentz was first placed on display at the New York Hall of Science.

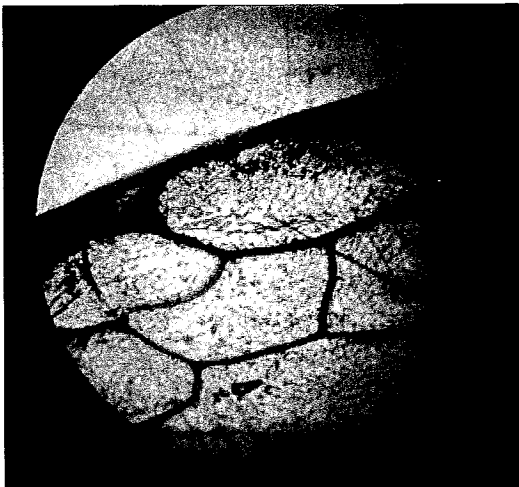
A light source is mounted beneath the microscope housing, and directs the light through the object being viewed. This requires the samples being viewed to be very thin, or transparent, as thick, solid objects will not show any detail on the screen. The "objective" lens, or the lens nearest the slide being viewed can be changed to obtain a different magnification, although our microscope has a single objective that can only be changed with a special allen wrench. Focusing the microscope is done with a knob on the front of the microscope.



DARYL AND NEAL CHECK OUT THE 'SCOPE

An example of transparent objects are insect wings. Viewing the wings of many different insect types will show patterns of the evolution of wing structures. Insect legs and antennae or "feelers" can also be viewed with this microscope. Other ideal objects to view with the microscope are small, finely detailed seeds that often travel on the wind, such as dandelion seeds.

Hair is another item that can be viewed with the microscope. Human hair and animal fur have different characteristics, and the size varies considerably between the hairs. Many of the mammals have coarser fur than human hairs, with characteristics which help the mammal to stay warm during cold weather. Many mammals also have a different fur as an "under coat" and a second "top coat".



NO, IT'S NOT A MOON OF JUPITER, IT'S THE MAGNIFIED WING OF A DRAGONFLY

The Wentzscope can be configured in a number of ways. The Nature Center has chosen to use plastic laminating as a method of holding the samples that are available for viewing. The use of the plastic lamination sheets allows for the multiple handling of the viewable samples by many individuals that visit the Nature Center. Use of fragile glass slides significantly reduces the number of samples that we can have on hand, and would require changing them constantly in a special holder in order to have a wide range of items for viewing. The one limitation of using the plastic laminated specimens is the scratching that normally occurs during handling. A new group of refurbished specimens has been made up and placed in the drawer of the microscope. If you should find laminated specimens that have

become badly scratched, please bring it to the attention of the CNC Docents organization so that the sample can be replaced. If the samples become unusable, visitors will lose interest in the microscope. We want the display to be fun to use.

NEW DOCENT CHIEF

The Docent Organization elected new officers for 2003 at their February meeting. Bill Hodges of Santa Barbara (shown at right) is the newly elected president of the docents. He has been a volunteer at the Nature Center for about a year and a half. Bill works on the buildings or grounds and in the shop making exhibit displays, etc. Bill said "I enjoy riding my motorcycle to Cachuma Lake and working with a great group of people that are dedicated to the Nature Center. The volunteers and staff are inspiring with their expanded knowledge of the topics represented in the Nature Center and the surrounding area. I am learning a lot and it is a pleasure to be a part of this activity."



The following officers were re-elected for a second term: Dick Cofiell, vice-president; Patricia Martin, secretary; Don Wimpres, Treasurer.

Election of Board officers will be held in March, which is their formal, Annual Meeting. The present officers have all been nominated for a second term: Marion Schlinger, president; Kirby Duncan, vice-president; Carol Smagala, secretary; Lynda Williams-Terres, treasurer.

NEW BASE AT BIRD-WATCHING AREA



DON AND BILL CHECK OUT THE MAIN RUNWAY
AT THE BIRD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The decision was made recently to lay decomposed granite combined with a low percentage of cement under the Nature Center bird feeders to provide an easy-to-clean surface. The area is about 15 feet in diameter and is lined with river rocks around the edge. Since it is harder than simple decomposed granite, it can be swept to dispose of seed that may be rotten, moldy, or otherwise contaminated, and to improve the aesthetics of the area in front of the viewing window.

Bob Hutchison, a local businessman, donated his hauling services and the decomposed granite. Jose Rivera of Buellton, friend of Neal and Linda Taylor, donated his time and skill to do the work. Mr. Hutchison is the grandfather of the young fisherman who is the "star" of our Trout Derby poster and he is also a former resident on the Red Gate Ranch which existed in the area of the Park prior to the building of the dam.

TWO JEWELS IN OUR CURRENT EVENING SKY

CONTRIBUTED BY HELEN OSENGA

The two largest planets in our solar system are putting on a show for us now during the early evening hours. Giant Jupiter is the brightest object in the predawn sky other than the Moon. Look for it high in the southeast in the constellation Cancer. Cancer is not that easy to find, but you can hardly miss Jupiter. A good pair of binoculars held steady may reveal Jupiter's four largest moons. They will be seen as pinpoints lined up on either side of the planet. Jupiter has a total of 40 moons known today. In 1993 we knew of 16 -- new moons are being discovered as we speak.

Also in the constellation Cancer is the Beehive star cluster which can be observed with binoculars. Focus on Jupiter and you will notice this swarm of several dozen stars in the background. Jupiter's deep atmosphere is composed of clouds of 90% hydrogen and 10% helium with traces of methane, water and ammonia. Scientists are not sure what lies beneath those clouds; however it is believed that Jupiter has a rocky, icy core 10 to 15 times the mass of the Earth, possibly encased in liquefied metallic hydrogen.

Pale yellow Saturn, next in size after Jupiter, can be seen high in the southwest in the constellation Taurus, the Bull. With a small telescope you should be able to see Saturn's rings and possibly its largest moon, Titan. Saturn has a total of 30 moons known today. In 1993 we knew of 18; and as with Jupiter, new moons are still being discovered. Saturn's rings are only 100 feet thick and are composed almost entirely of water ice crystals ranging in size from specks to houses. When Galileo first observed the rings with his crude telescope in 1610, he wasn't sure what he was seeing. He thought the rings were "handles" or large moons on either side of the planet.

For those of you who like to get up early, you can treat yourself with the sight of the brightest planet jewel. Venus rises about two hours ahead of the sun in early March, decreasing to about one hour and 20 minutes by the end of the month.

NOW FEATURING!



ommie holds the authentic Audubon Singing Birds added to the Gift Shop collection: the Quail and Horned Owl. A new shipment has been received, including the Eagle, Loon, Robin, Duck, and Meadow Lark. Come see them!



April 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

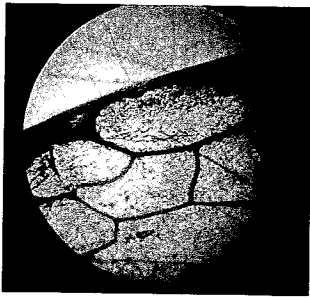
**TROUT
DERBY**

**DON'T FORGET
THESE VERY
IMPORTANT DATES!**

**ZOO TO
YOU**

May 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

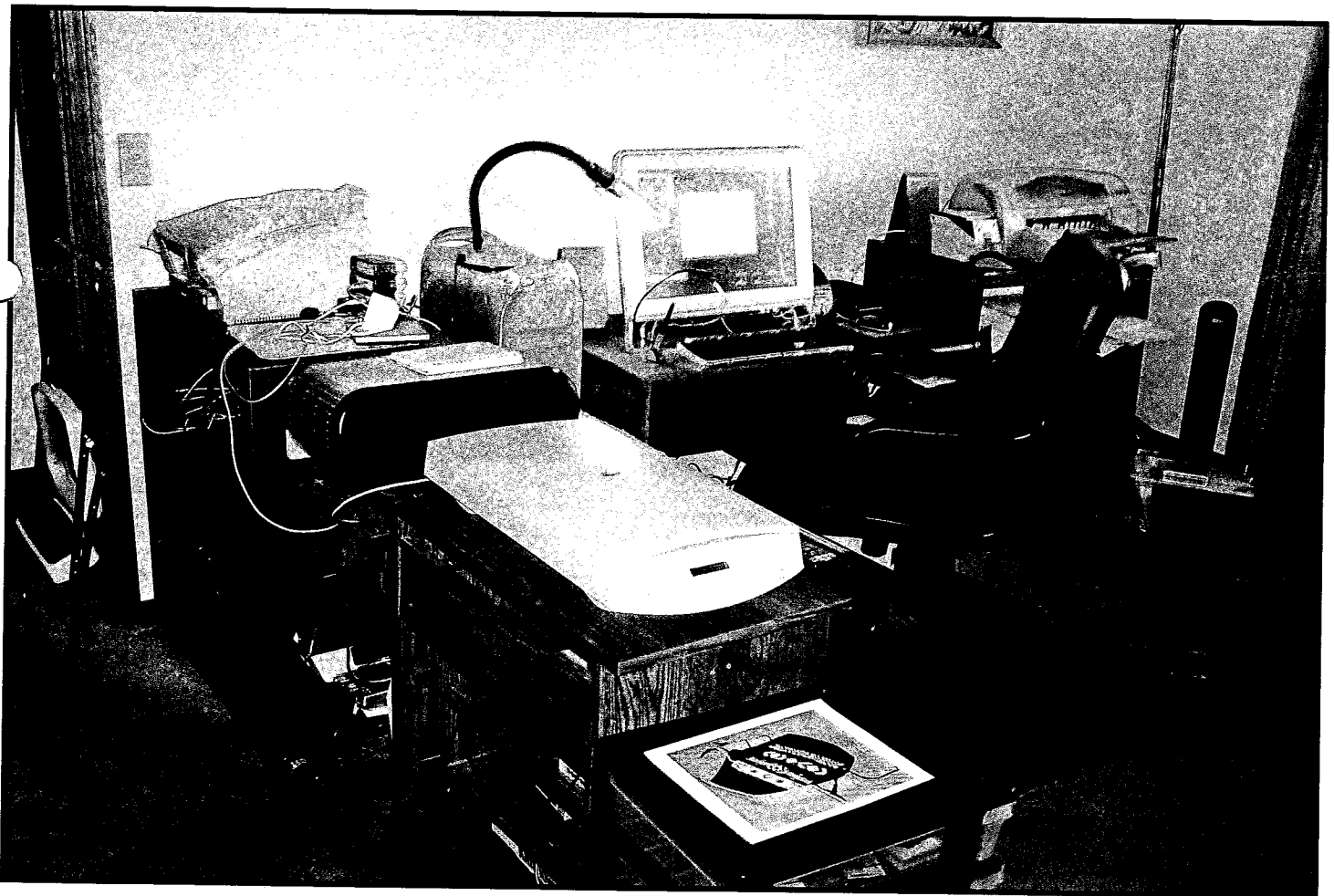


LOCATED ON THE
PLANET ZOT

Editor's Corner



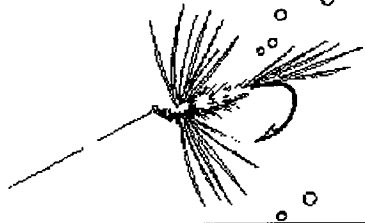
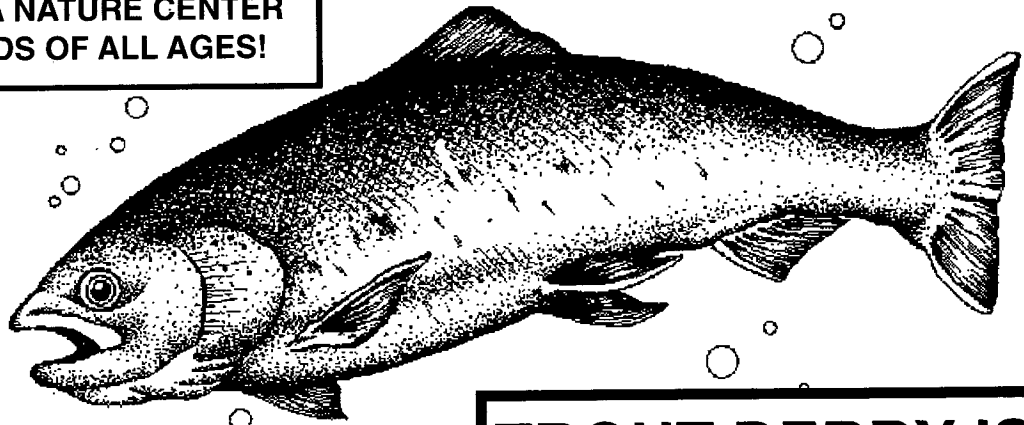
DANGER! WATCH FOR FALLING PARTICIPLES!



Here is the actual Editor's Corner. There was some space available, so since Nature (and copy machines) abhor a vacuum, I thought you'd like to see where all the foolishness is generated. Actually, Annie called me with concern that the Zoo-To-You event had not been publicized. Realizing that there was indeed a need, I added the calendar page (and added details on the back on the address page as well.) That left an empty page to be addressed, and what else could I place on this unused space on very short notice? Well, why not this? And here it is. - Alan

ZOO-TO-YOU

**SATURDAY MAY 3RD, 2003
TWO SHOWS, 11:30 + 3:00
AT CACHUMA NATURE CENTER
FUN FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!**



TROUT DERBY IS ALMOST HERE!

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
APRIL 4, 5, 6**



**CACHUMA LAKE NATURE CENTER
CACHUMA HC-58
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93105**